

## Combining Sentences II

When revising your writing, look for ways to vary the length and structure of your sentences. One effective way to do this is to combine sentences that are repetitive or simplistic. You can combine such sentences by deleting repeated words, adding connecting words, or changing the form of words. Study the techniques below.

- Use a coordinating conjunction (*and, but, for, or, nor, so, or yet*) to combine clauses.
  - a. Gargoyles can be ugly creatures.
  - b. Few people are frightened by them. [*but*]  
*Gargoyles can be ugly creatures, but few people are frightened by them.*
- Add correlative conjunctions (*either . . . or; not only . . . but also; both . . . and*).
  - a. It's because they're made out of stone.
  - b. It's because they're so ugly they're cute. [*either . . . or*]  
*It's either because they're made out of stone or because they're so ugly they're cute.*
- Link main clauses with conjunctive adverbs (such as *also, however, moreover, nevertheless, still, therefore*). Use a semicolon before a conjunctive adverb that joins two sentences and use a comma after it.
  - a. Gargoyles are architectural ornaments.
  - b. They're functional. [*moreover*]  
*Gargoyles are architectural ornaments; moreover, they're functional.*
- Use possessive nouns or pronouns.
  - a. We looked at a book about gargoyles.
  - b. The book belongs to Maria. [*'s*]  
*We looked at Maria's book about gargoyles.*

**EXERCISE** Combine each sentence pair into a single sentence. Where indicated, use the bracketed words, word parts, and punctuation marks in your combined sentences.

- Sample**
- a. Gargoyles are ornate spouts.
  - b. They project from the cornices of a building. [*and*]

**Revision** *Gargoyles are ornate spouts, and they project from the cornices of a building.*

1. a. Gargoyles funnel rainwater away from the building.
- b. They watch over passersby. [*not only . . . but also*]

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2. a. This gargoyle is carved to look like a head.
- b. The head resembles that of a lion. [*'s*]

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## Revising with Style

### LESSON

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Continued

3. a. Gargoyles must have been popular during the rise of Gothic architecture.  
b. They can be seen on many large buildings over five hundred years old. [**for**]  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. a. Most people think of gargoyles as creatures from medieval cathedrals.  
b. They are popular to this day. [**still**]  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Modern stone carvers have captured the old gargoyle styles.  
b. They've added some contemporary designs. [**not only . . . but also**]  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. a. Stone carvers worked on the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., for more than forty years.  
b. They carved only 112 gargoyles. [**yet**]  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. a. Visitors to the National Cathedral can see a menacing face.  
b. It is the face of Darth Vader. [**'s**]  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. a. They can also see a stone lawyer, complete with briefcase, and a gargoyle in a gas mask.  
b. They know they're not looking at a medieval building. [**so**]  
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